



**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 225660

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Dimitry G. Grabbe

Art Unit: 2872

Application No. 10/755,767

Examiner: Dana Ross

Filed: January 12, 2004

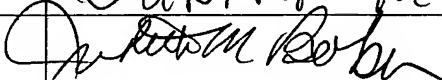
For: TOOL AND METHOD FOR  
FORMING A MULTIFIBER FERRULE

**COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants provide the following Comments on the Statement for Reasons for Allowance.

<b><i>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10</i></b>			
I hereby certify that this Response to Office Action and all accompanying documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on November 17, 2004, in an envelope as "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 CFR 1.10, Mailing Label Number EV 419253926 US addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.			
Name (Print/Type)	JUDITH M BORCA		
Signature		Date	November 17, 2004

In re Appln. of Grabbe  
Application No. 10/755,767

The Statement indicates that "the closest prior art of record found is U.S. Pat. No. 6,409,442". Applicants respectfully object to the use of the term "closest" as the Statement fails to explain the meaning of this term.

Although the Statement of Reasons for Allowance mentions certain features in the references cited and the claims, the claims are considered "as a whole" relative to the references cited. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention "as a whole" is not anticipated by nor obvious from the art of record, including but not limited to U.S. Patent 6,409,442 (Berkold et al.).

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 17, 2004